

the States. Instead of one nutrition standard, we will have fifty different standards. Instead of promoting our children—our future—we punish them.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican Majority has the votes to force this Bill upon the American people. But, what they want and what we want are clearly different. They want block grants. We want healthy Americans. They want cheap labor. We want fair labor. They hurt children. We want to help children. They call the seventy billion dollars in benefit reductions "savings". We call them "cuts". They want to use that money to give tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans. We want to use that money to give a break to the children of America. They want change. We want change. Their change is mean and cruel and will cause misery. Our change is for improvement. We want to put people to work, get them off welfare, prevent teen pregnancy, nourish infants, feed needy children and prepare our young for a productive future.

When the record of this period in our Nation's history is written, we want it said that we took people off welfare and put them to work, at a livable wage. We want it said that we fed children in their stomachs so that we could feed them in their minds. We want it said that while some wanted to hurt the people, reason prevailed, and we helped the people. I urge my colleagues to reject the Personal Responsibility Act. It is irresponsible.

□ 2230

CHILD NUTRITION IN THE WELFARE REFORM BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. CLYBURN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today utterly and totally appalled by what I am reading in the bill H.R. 1214, the so-called "Personal Responsibility Act."

If this bill passes, and it just might—judging by the rapid-fire way this and other ill conceived "Contract With America"-inspired legislation is making its way on and off the House floor—the GOP itself should be held "personally responsible" for creating a measure that could create the specter of millions of hungry American children.

Let us take a close look at what will be cut and, if I may, let us use South Carolina as a case study on just how these cuts will affect some of the nation's neediest children.

First, the bill proposes to cut almost \$70 billion over 5 years in low-income assistance programs. As a part of these cuts, the bill will end the entitlement status of all federally funded child nutrition programs in lieu of State block grants, for the States to do what they will.

On the surface, this may sound like big government savings. But a closer look at this bill reveals that these sav-

ings are being made at the expense of our children.

On the chopping block are school breakfast and lunch programs, summer feeding programs, the special milk program and the commodities portion of school nutrition programs.

In South Carolina alone, the absence of the school lunch program could mean that 400,000 children will be denied what may well be their only balanced meal of the day.

Further, the bill repeals the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, better known as WIC.

In South Carolina, the WIC caseload is close to 124,000. WIC has been proven to be highly successful in meeting nationally standardized nutritional needs of women and children.

All totaled, South Carolina would receive \$96 million less in Federal funding for the school lunch and WIC programs.

Also on the cutting board are food stamps. This bill will cut spending by \$20.3 billion in the Food Stamp Program over 5 years. This portion of the bill would impose a rigid cap on food stamp expenditures, with no adjustments for inflation. It would also require certain recipients to go to work without providing any funds to States for job creation.

This portion of the bill would affect over 350,000 food stamp recipients in South Carolina and the State would receive \$174 million less in Federal funding for food stamps over 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, I have had a steady stream of visitors to my office in the past few weeks—bipartisan visitors—from the South Carolina PTA, the South Carolina Guidance Counselors, the South Carolina Food Service Association, the South Carolina Dietetics Association—people who are horrified at what this bill contains because they know first-hand what the true affects would be on children if this measure were to pass.

What is the impetus behind the GOP trying to pass a measure that has raised the ire of such diverse groups as the National School Board Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, the American Heart Association and the National Education Association?

Why are they so bent on passing a plan that would literally take food out of the mouths of the Nation's young?

It is not secret that Republicans intend to use the revenues raised from cuts to welfare programs to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.

Well, this "steal from the poor to pay for the rich" Robin Hood-reversal scheme has come under fire from all corners.

And the fact of the manner is, even though the Republicans would like to pretend that welfare mothers and their children are the bane of the Federal budget, the realities do not bear them out.

For even if the entire welfare program were totally cut today, it would make only a dent in deficit reduction.

So, this mean-spirited attack on welfare, and in particular, this hatchet job being waged against child nutrition program, is totally unnecessary and will not make any significant cuts in the Federal budget.

Mr. Speaker, when this 104th Congress began, much reference was made to the orphanage heralded in the movie "Boys Town" as a model for the Nation on how to deal with children born to poor mothers.

Now, the Draconian measures proposed in this bill brings to mind another movie image, that of young poor and hungry "Oliver Twist," his small child's hands cupped, standing before a scowling orphanage director, piteously pleading, "More, sir?"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. FLAKE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FLAKE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

SACRIFICES IN THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLIVER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Speaker, we have debated for many hours today on the welfare reform bill, the so-called Personal Responsibility Act, and it is a very important piece of legislation indeed.

The Republicans say that this bill is about sacrifices. And indeed there are going to be 5 million families, and in those 5 million families there are 9.5 million children who are indeed going to make some sacrifices. Because for each one of those families, for each of the next 5 years on average, they will use nearly \$2,000 worth of income and food and care for children while the parents go to work and care for abused children and such.

And every one of those 5 million families has under \$15,000 of income at the

present time from which they are going to sacrifice least \$2,000.

Why are we doing that? Is it to balance the budget? No, not even the first step on that. Not a single economist of some 20 or so, mostly chosen by the Republican majority for their willingness to say what the majority wanted them to say, not a single one of those economists supported the tax cut as a way to get about balancing the budget.

Is it to reduce the deficit? Well, here is a chart that shows indeed what the deficit is and what it has been over a period of time. And you can see this massive deficit that was built up during the Reagan years and the Bush years, year after year, after many years of nearly balanced budgets and then slowly rising, but this huge deficit in the Reagan and the Bush years, year after year after year.

But, no, it is not going to reduce the deficit. Because after the amendment that we adopted today which allows the savings to come from the welfare bill, the welfare reform bill, those savings are not to be used for reducing the deficit. They are, in fact, to be used to give a massive tax cut to the richest among us.

Fifty billion dollars of moneys from families, from the 5 million families with under \$15,000 a year is going to be transferred. Fifty billion dollars is going to be transferred to the 2 million families who have now presently over \$200,000 per year. Each one of those families is going to see almost \$5,000 per year for the next 5 years on average of tax reductions.

Now, where is the sacrifice here for those 2 million families who presently make over \$200,000 per year under the present tax laws? Where is the sacrifice there? I know, if you hadn't already guessed, there is not a single family of a Congressman or Congresswoman who is going to be sacrificing a penny in that process.

And what are we as Americans going to be gaining from this? Are we going to get growth in the economy by putting people to work or a lower unemployment rate?

Well, every time the economy looks as if it is going to take off and grow a bit or the unemployment rate goes below 6 percent, the Federal Reserve Chairman, Alan Greenspan, raises the interest rate to cut the growth rate and to put people out of work.

Where is the sacrifice for all of those 2 million families that are going to be given \$50 billion in tax cuts that is going to be taken from the 5 million families and their 9½ million children, families that have less than \$15,000 a year of income?

Well, there is a sacrifice here ultimately, even if it is a little hard to see. And it may take a few years to see it, and it comes in crime particularly.

Because we are going to see in a few years down the road thousands more people in prisons, prisons that cost \$60,000 a cell to build and \$20,000 to maintain a prisoner in one of those cells. We are going to see more drive-

by shootings and more thefts and robberies and house breaks and drug abuse and sales of drugs. And it will only take a few more years. That is a few years down the road.

In all of my years in the legislature of my State, and there were quite a number of those, and my few years, 4 years now, in the Congress, that is the most vicious and the most far-reaching attack on children that I have ever seen, and I have seen more than a few of those in my years in government.

Because whenever you need to cut revenues, whenever you need to cut expenditures, children are targeted. They can't fight back. They can't vote.

But some of us are going to fight back for them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. WISE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. SCHROEDER addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I visited or 2 days ago I visited in Sheffield Lake in Lorain County in my district the Tennyson Elementary School to see the School Lunch Program up close and to talk to students and teachers and parents and administrators and cafeteria people.

I was taken around by a couple of third graders, Will Emery and Zach Russell, and met with lots of students, Jennifer Ward and her two sisters, who had some things to tell us, with Mrs. Armstead, the principal, and with several other people that all agreed on one thing. People, whether it is from a PTA or from school administrators or teachers or parents, the one thing they agree on about the School Lunch Program is that if it ain't broke don't fix it.

And perhaps I shouldn't use grammar like that talking about a grade school, but when you think about all the talk, that the Republicans say it is block grants and the Democrats say that these are very real cuts as they are about nutrition programs for children and about school lunches, the fact is, as my friend from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] said a few minutes ago this has been a program in existence for 49 years.

It works. There is simply no reason to fix something that is not broken. It

is a government program that works. It is for the future of our children.

Why mess with it? Why make these radical, divisive kinds of changes that Republicans are suggesting about school lunch? It simply doesn't make sense.

PRESSLER AMENDMENT

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to shift gears and talk about another matter, different from the school lunch issue that people have been debating tonight.

In 10 days, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto, is coming to Washington to meet with the President.

Business Week magazine reports that one of Bhutto's key goals in courting President Clinton is to ease enforcement of the Pressler amendment. The Pressler amendment, Mr. Speaker, prevents Pakistan from obtaining 60 F-16 fighter jets.

The Pressler amendment made good sense when it was enacted, and it makes better sense today because of the political and social upheaval that is wracking Pakistani society and threatening the stability of the Bhutto government.

Pakistan is in a chaotic state. Just in recent weeks, we have witnessed:

The murder earlier this month of two American diplomats in Karachi;

A show trial in which two Christians, one of them a 14-year-old boy, were sentenced to death for blasphemy against Islam and narrowly escaped Pakistan with their lives; and

A stunning piece of journalism by the New York Times Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, John Burns.

Mr. Speaker, I will include in the RECORD the article from the New York Times by Mr. Burns.

At considerable risk to himself, John Burns has traced a good deal of the world's terrorist activity to the University of Dawat and Jihad in Peshawar, Pakistan. Roughly translated, it is the University of the Community of the Holy War. It is simply a school for terrorism.

According to Mr. Burns, "Just about everyone has a hidden Kalashnikov assault rifle."

The university is a haven for Muslims militants from throughout Asia and the Arab world. The University of Dawat and Jihad is under investigation as a possible training ground for terrorists who have struck in the Philippines, Central Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and now investigators believe the World Trade Center bombing in New York 2 years ago.

Burns says that the area in and around Peshawar represents, "One of the most active training grounds and sanctuaries for a new breed of international terrorists."

According to high-ranking U.S. diplomats, students are taught that the Islamic renaissance has to be born out of blood and by only striking at the West will Islam ever be able to dictate events in the world and events have